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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09 889,515	10 10 2001	Alan W. Faull	P0281494	5223

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EXAMINER

WRIGHT, SONYA N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1626

DATE MAILED: 04 03 2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/889,515

Applicant(s)

FAULL ET AL.

Examiner

Sonya Wright

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 8 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application)

Supplementary

- ☐ Notice of Drafting Person's Patent Drawing Review (FD-400)
- ☐ International Preliminary Report on Patentability (PCT/ISA/210)

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DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application.

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election with traverse of Group I in Paper No. 8 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that: the Examiner has stated that R4 itself may be a heteroaryl group and so cannot be included within the scope of Group I. However, R4 is defined as an amido, a sulphonamido, or a carbamate group, and it is these groups that may carry heterocyclic substituents. Any heteroaryl groups that may be present thus would be remote from the "core" indole structure of the molecule of the invention. Therefore it would not constitute a significant additional burden to include within the scope of Group I compounds where R4, as defined in claim 1, contains a substituent heterocyclic group.

The Examiner agrees that, as Applicant points out, R4 is defined as an amido, a sulphonamido, or a carbamate group, and it is these groups that may carry heterocyclic substituents. However, upon further consideration, additional restriction is required.

The following generic concept as depicted in claim 1 has been identified for examination: X is CH₂; R1 is phenyl; R2 is carboxy; R3 is hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted alkynyl; R4 is a group NHSO₂R₁₅ where R₁₅ is optionally substituted alkyl, or optionally substituted aryl; R5, R6, and R7 are independently selected from hydrogen or an optionally

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8 should be limited to process (a) and R22 is SO₂R15. In claim 8, Z is limited to chloride, bromide, iodide, mesylate, and tosylate.

The remaining subject matter of claims 1-10 stands withdrawn from further consideration under 37 CFR 1.142(b) as constituting other patentably distinct inventions.

The withdrawn subject matter of claims 1-10 is properly restricted as said subject matter differs in structure and element from the elected subject matter so as to be patentably distinct therefrom, i.e. a reference which anticipated the elected subject matter would not even render obvious the withdrawn subject matter and fields of search are not co-extensive.

Claims 1-10 are objected to as containing non-elected subject matter. This objection may be overcome by limiting the claims to the elected subject matter identified supra.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed recitation of a use, without setting forth any steps involved in the process, results in an improper definition of a process, i.e., results in a claim which is not a proper process claim under 35 U.S.C. 101. See for example *Ex parte Dunki*, 153 USPQ 678 (Bd App. 1967) and

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

For rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, the following factors must be considered (In re Wands, 8 USPQ2d 1400, 1404 (CAFC, 1988)):

- 1) Nature of invention.
- 2) State of prior art.
- 3) Level of ordinary skill in the art.
- 4) Level of predictability in the art.
- 5) Amount of direction and guidance provided by the inventor.
- 6) Existence of working examples.
- 7) Breadth of claims.
- 8) Quantity of experimentation needed to make or use the invention based on the content of the disclosure.

Claim 8 is directed to " reacting a compound of formula (VII) with a compound of formula (VIII)". The specification does not reasonably provide enablement for the instantly claimed process.

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specification fails to enable the skilled artisan to practice the invention without undue experimentation. The claims lack positive steps which teach how "reacting" is performed. There is little predictability in the art of which modifications may be made to the processes as claimed in order to prepare the claimed compound. The term "reacting" may encompass a great number of processes, however, without some guidance as to how these processes are performed, there would be little predictability in making the invention as claimed. The level of ordinary skill in the art is high. The skilled artisan would have a numerous amount of modifications to perform in the processes as claimed order to obtain the claimed compound, therefore undue experimentation would be required to prepare the instant compounds which are useful in the treatment of inflammatory diseases.

This rejection can be overcome by Applicant listing positive process steps in claim 8, e.g. the process steps listed on page 13, lines 1-21.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 10 provides for the use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 7, but, since the claim does not set forth any steps involved in the method/process, it is unclear what method/process applicant is intending to encompass. A claim is indefinite

actually practiced

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Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

It is requested that Applicant submit an abstract on a separate page.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sonya Wright, whose telephone number is (703) 308-4539. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Joseph K. McKane, can be reached at (703) 308-4537. The Unofficial fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7922. The Official fax phone numbers for this Group are (703) 308-4556 or 305-3592.

When filing a FAX in Technology Center 1600, please indicate in the Header (upper right) "Official" for papers that are to be entered into the file, and "Unofficial" for draft documents and other communications with the PTO that are not for entry into the

under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the

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applicant and should be addressed to [joseph.mckane@uspto.gov]. All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees will not communicate with applicant via Internet e-mail where sensitive data will be exchanged or where there exists a possibility that sensitive data could be identified unless there is of record an express waiver of the confidentiality requirements under 35 U.S.C. 122 by the applicant. See the Interim Internet Usage Policy published by the Patent and Trademark Office Official Gazette on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist, whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.



Joseph K. McKane

Supervisory Patent Examiner

Group 1600

Sonya Wright

March 28, 2003